UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: October 21, 1963

FROM : C. A. Evans

JUNE

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN
RACIAL MATTERS

The Attorney General spoke to me with reference to our memorandum of October 18, 1963, recommending a technical surveillance on the office of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at Atlanta, Georgia. It is noted that last week the Attorney General authorized similar coverage on the residence of Martin Luther King, Jr., President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The Attorney General is apparently still vacillating in his position as to technical coverage on Martin Luther King and his organization, it being recalled that he had initially suggested such coverage and then changed his mind and felt it might be inadvisable.

The Attorney General said that he is still uncertain in his own mind about this coverage. I reminded him of our previous conversation, wherein he was assured that all possible would be done to insure the security of this operation.

The Attorney General advised that he was approving the October 18, 1963, memorandum but asked that this coverage and that on King's residence by evaluated at the end of 30 days in light of the results secured so that the continuance of these surveillances could be determined at that time. This will be done.

The original of our October 18, 1963, memorandum was handed to me by the Attorney General. It is attached hereto.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Donohue

CAE:vap

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emorandum for Mr. W. C. Sullivan
e: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
— COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS
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[redacted]

BSERVATION:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage e as complete as possible and because of the communist influence in he racial movement shown by activities of Stanley Levison and King's onnection with him, it is believed desirable to put all possible overage on the racial leaders in order to obtain full information.

ECOMMENDATION:

That the attached be sent to the Attorney General requesting uthority to install a technical surveillance on the headquarters of he SCLC in Atlanta.

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